

Are male voters reluctant to vote for a woman? Harris' backers are confronting the question head on

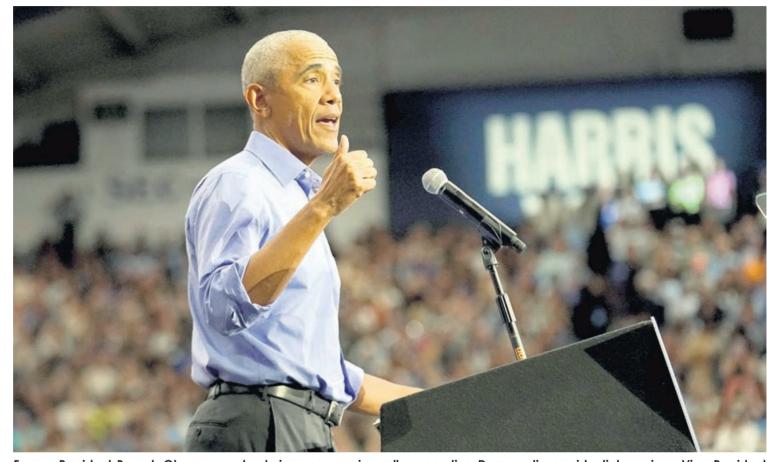
By W.WEISSERT/Z.MILLER Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The concern has been there all along, but now it's being talked about openly: Are some men reluctant to vote for Democrat Kamala Harris because she's a woman?

The vice president rarely references her gender on the campaign trail, but her key supporters are starting to make more direct appeals to male voters, hoping to overcome ingrained sexism — or just plain apathy — as Election Day

Former President Barack Obama said he was speaking to Black men in particular when he suggested some "aren't feeling the idea of having a woman as president."

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Former President Barack Obama speaks during a campaign rally supporting Democratic presidential nominee Vice President Kamala Harris, Thursday, Oct. 10, 2024, at the University of Pittsburgh's Fitzgerald Field House in Pittsburgh.

Associated Press

of fish, Jasmine Rice, Sautéed Kale and Spinach, Creole Sauce and Mango Salsa

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U.S. will send a missile defense system and troops to run it to Israel to aid defense against Iran

By LOLITA C. BALDOR Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States will send a T erminal High Altitude Area Defense battery to Israel, along with the troops needed to operate it, the Pentagon said Sunday, even as Iran warned Washington to keep American military forces out of Israel.

Maj. Gen. Pat Ryder, Pentagon spokesman, said in a statement that Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin authorized the deployment of the THAAD battery at the direction of President Joe Biden. He said the system will help bolster Israel's air defenses following Iran's ballistic missile attacks on Israel in April and October. The delivery of the sophis-



A Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) anti-ballistic missile defense system is displayed during a Made in America showcase on the South Lawn of the White House, July 15, 2019, in Washington.

ticated missile defense sys- tem risks further inflaming

Associated Press

the conflict in the Middle East despite widespread diplomatic efforts to avoid an all-out war. The Iranian warning came in a post on the social platform X long associated with Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, who noted the earlier reports that the U.S. was considering the deployment.

Israeli forces and Hezbollah fighters in Lebanon have been clashing since Oct. 8, 2023, when the Lebanese militant group began firing rockets over the border in support of its ally Hamas in Gaza. Late last month, Israel launched a ground invasion into Lebanon.

Israel is widely believed to be preparing a military response to Iran's Oct. 1 attack when it fired roughly 180 missiles into Israel.

In a brief exchange with reporters before leaving Florida on Sunday, Biden said he agreed to deploy the THAAD battery "to defend Israel." Biden spoke at Mac-Dill Air Force Base in Tampa after making a quick visit to to see the damage caused by Hurricane Milton and meet with first responders, residents and local leaders. Ryder, in his statement, said the deployment "underscores the United States' ironclad commitment to the defense of Israel, and to defend Americans in Israel, from any further ballistic missile attacks by Iran." It was not immediately

clear where the THAAD battery was coming from or when it will arrive. Lt. Col. Nadav Shoshani, an Israeli army spokesman, declined to provide any timeline for its arrival, but thanked the U.S. for its support.

The U.S. deployed one of the batteries to the Middle East along with additional Patriot battalions to bolster protections for U.S. forces in the region late last year after the Oct. 7, 2023, attack on Israel by Hamas militants. Ryder also said that the U.S. sent a THAAD battery to Israel in 2019 for training.

It also is not unusual for the U.S. to have a limited number of troops in Israel, which the U.S. considers a key regional ally. There generally has been a small number of forces there consistently as well as routine rotational deployments for training and exercises.

The THAAD will add another layer to Israel's already significant air defenses, which include separate systems designed to intercept longrange, medium-range and short-range threats. Israel recently retired its U.S.-made Patriot systems after decades of use.

According to an April report by the Congressional Research Service, the Army has seven THAAD batteries. Generally each consists of six truck-mounted launchers, 48 interceptors, radio and radar equipment and requires 95 soldiers to operate.

The THAAD is considered a complementary system to the Patriot, but it can defend a wider area. It can hit targets at ranges of 150 to 200 kilometers (93 to 124 miles), and is used to destroy short-range, mediumrange and limited intermediate-range ballistic missile threats that are either inside or outside the atmosphere.

The U.S. Missile Defense Agency is responsible for developing the system, but it is operated by the Army. An eighth system has been funded and ordered and is expected to be in the field sometime next year.



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Are male voters reluctant to vote for a woman? Harris' backers are confronting the question head on

Continued from Front

Actor Ed O'Neill implores in a new ad, "Be a man: Vote for a woman." And Harris' running mate, Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz, is helping lead " Hombres con Harris " — "Men with Harris" to help energize Hispanic male voters.

"I think, in many ways, it's other people who need to be the messenger," said Debbie Walsh, director of the Center for American Women in Politics at Rutgers University. She added of appeals to men by the vice president, "I don't think she can get up and say, "Shame on you."

"It's sad, but I think she needs these outside validators," Walsh said.

The clearest example is Obama who, while campaigning in Pittsburgh on Thursday night, stopped by a Harris campaign field office to "speak some truths," especially for some Black male voters who aren't enthusiastic about supporting the vice president.

"Part of it makes me think that, well, you just aren't feeling the idea of having a woman as president, and you're coming up with other alternatives and other reasons for that," he said, adding: "You're thinking about sitting out, or supporting somebody who has a history of denigrating you, because you think that's a sign of strength, because that's what being a man is? Putting women down? That's not acceptable."

Edmondson, 63-year-old retiree from the Phoenix suburb of Gilbert who is Black and attended a Harris rally in Arizona on Thursday night, said he's worried about whether young Black men will turn out for Harris. He said he's trying to convince his three grandsons to vote for Harris even though their father, who is Edmondson's son, is a supporter of the vice president's opponent, Republican Donald Trump.

"There are more Black folks supporting Donald Trump than I thought," he said,



Democratic presidential nominee Vice President Kamala Harris speaks at a campaign event Friday, Oct. 11, 2024, at the Grayhawk Golf Club in Scottsdale, Ariz. **Associated Press**

vote for a woman."

His message was far more direct than Harris often is. Despite making history as the first woman of color to lead a major party's presidential ticket, she hasn't publicly embraced the trailblazing nature of her candidacy like Hillary Clinton did in 2016.

Instead, she used this summer's Democratic convention to lean heavily into her experience as a prosecutor and promise that the U.S. has "the strongest, most lethal fighting force in the world."

"She is speaking, in those moments, to the people that may well not be comfortable, or trusting, that a woman can lead at this highest level," Walsh said. In 2020, women made up a bigger share of the elector-

ate than men. According to AP VoteCast, a sweeping survey of that cycle's voters, 53% of voters were women and 47% were men. And in that election, men were more likely to support Trump, while women voters were more likely to support

Polling suggests that electing a woman president isn't a top priority for men or women, but men in particular don't see it as important. A Pew Research Center poll released last year asked Americans how important

Biden.

it is that a woman be elected president in their lifetime, and found that only 18% of U.S. adults said this is extremely or very important to them. Some 64% said it is not too important or not at all so, or that the president's

Among some key demographics, Harris' support from men doesn't keep up with levels among women. A majority of Hispanic women have a positive opinion of Harris and a negative view of Trump, but Hispanic men are more divided on both candidates, according to a poll released Friday by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Af-

The Harris campaign rejects the notion that Harris herself can't deliver a winning message to male voters. Instead, it argues, she is working to reach them personally and also complementing efforts by top male supporters and campaign advertising pushes aimed at things like top sporting events.

ing to masculinity, the campaign says, it is presenting arguments that can appeal to men built around key issues, like the economy. Harris is on the digital cover of the latest issue of "Vogue" and recently taped an interview with the "Call Her Daddy" podcast, which is most popular with vounger women. But she's also sitting next week for a town hall hosted by popular radio personality Charlamagne tha God.

Senior Harris campaign officials nonetheless admit to being worried about Trump's support among men — including white, Hispanic and Black Americans. They note Trump's brash appeals to "bro" culture have resonated with some, especially young voters — and made some would-be voters more likely to support Trump or sit out the election.

In response, aides have also urged the vice president to explicitly mention cryptocurrency in her speeches and interviews, knowing its salience among men. Trump has a crypto venture with his family, though he differs from Harris in believing that it should be more lightly regulated than she does. The Harris campaign is also expected to launch an aggressive effort to have the vice president and Walz appear in male-skewing media in the race's closing weeks. Walz has already done some of that, helping launch the "Hombres" group in Arizona and having one of his rallies there livestreamed via Twitch as a streamer on the site played "World of Warcraft" and offered commentary on the event — a forum popular with younger, largely male

Harris' running mate is also attending a Friday football game in Mankato, Minnesota, where he once was an assistant coach, and plans a hunting outing this weekend.

During a "White Dudes for Harris" fundraising call this summer, Walz said this about the prospect of defeating Trump: "How often in the world do you make that bastard wake up afterward and know that a Black woman kicked his ass?"

blaming what he called misinformation surrounding Harris' background as a former prosecutor.

Trump has a long pattern of disparaging women. At a rally in Reading, Pennsylvania, this week, Trump reacted to Harris' appearance on ABC's "The View," by saying, "People are realizing she's a dumb person. And we can't have another dumb president." He also criticized on his social media site "the dumb women" who host the ABC program. Next week, Trump is set to participate in a Fox News Channel town hall focusing on issues impacting women. But he has more often prioritized doing interviews with podcasts that are popular with younger men. The former president also entered the Republican convention this summer to the sounds of James Brown's "It's a Man's World" and the proceedings were built around promoting masculine themes, including featuring personalities from the wrestling world. The Lincoln Project, a Re-

publican group that opposes Trump and often produces ads meant to irk him, produced an online spot voiced by O'Neill, of "Modern Family" fame, that urges men, when it comes to Harris to "let her lead," before concluding: "Be a man,

gender doesn't matter.

The same poll showed that 73% of men and 57% of women said the issue was not too important, not at all important or that the president's gender doesn't mat-

fairs Research.

Rather than simply appeal-



Lawyer for news organizations presses Guantanamo judge to make public a plea deal for 9/11 accused

By ELLEN KNICKMEYER **Associated Press** FORT MEADE, Md. (AP) — A

lawyer for news organizations urged the U.S. military commission at Guantanamo Bay to unseal the plea deal struck with accused 9/11 mastermind Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and two others, saying the public has a constitutional right and compelling need to follow one of the "most-disputed, debated, argued-about prosecutions that have happened in this country."

The plea agreement was reached in August by the three accused, their U.S. government prosecutors and the Guantanamo commission's top official, but it was abruptly revoked by Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin days after it became public. It has become one of the most fiercely debated chapters in more than a decade of military hearings related to the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, which killed nearly 3,000 people and triggered longrunning U.S. military invasions abroad. The plea agreement would have spared Mohammed and two co-defendants the risk of the death penalty, in exchange for their guilty pleas in the al-Qaida attacks.

After news of the deal broke, however, top Republican lawmakers denounced it and the White House expressed concerns. Families of the victims variously expressed shock and approv-



In this photo reviewed by U.S. military officials, the control tower of Camp VI detention facility is seen on April 17, 2019, in Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba.

Associated Press

al of the plea deal, which was aimed at resolving more than a decade of pre-trial hearings in a legally troubled case for the government. Austin said in revoking the military commission's approval of the plea bargain that he had decided responsibility for any such grave decision should rest with him as secretary of defense. Mohammed and the two co-defendants have filed challenges, saying Austin's action was illegal and that the actions by the Biden administration, lawmakers and others amounted to undue outside influence in the case. Seven news organizations —

Fox News, NBC, NPR, The As-

sociated Press, The New York

Times, The Washington Post and Univision — challenged the sealing of the plea deal. Friday's hearing highlighted the ad hoc nature of the military commission, which U.S. leaders created to try accused violent extremists in the wake of the 2001 attacks. The lawyers and judge pivoted Friday between civilian and military legal precedents in arguing for and against making terms of the plea agreement public.

The hearing also highlighted the obstacles facing the public, including news organizations, in obtaining information about proceedings against the 9/11 defendants and the few dozen other remaining detainees at Guan-

tanamo Bay, Cuba. In civilian courts, a plea agreement is traditionally a matter of public record.

Both defense and prosecution lawyers in the case asked the commission judge, Air Force Col. Matthew Mc-Call, to deny the news organizations' request to make the plea deal public.

They argued that allowing the public to know all the terms of the deal that the government struck with defendants Mohammed, Walid bin Attash and Mustafa al-Hawsawi could wait. Prosecutors and defense lawyers offered different proposals for how long to wait — until after any rulings on challenges to Austin's overturning of the plea deal, or until after any military sentencing panel is ever seated in the case, or forever.

Prosecutors were concerned about an "oversaturation of information" about the men's willingness to plead guilty tainting any future sentencing panel, lead prosecutor Clay Trivett told McCall.

Defense lawyer Walter Ruiz, representing Hawsawi, said "press gluttony and greed" for profits was driving the news media request to make the terms public. Ruiz criticized news organizations for making the existence of the plea bargain public, and said they were seeking to add to "the very debate they helped to create that impacted this process."

Lawyer David Schulz, representing the seven news outlets, argued that the Guantanamo court had failed to show any level of threat to the conduct of the 9/11 hearings that warranted hamstringing the public's legal rights to know what courts and the government at large are doing.

"It's just inappropriate to have a knee-jerk reaction and say, 'Well, we have to keep all this from the press,' Schulz told McCall. "Particularly in this context ... of one of the most disputed, debated, argued-about prosecutions that have happened in this country involving ... the most horrendous crime that ever happened on American



Brooke Rollins, former director of the White House Domestic Policy Council, speaks as former House Speaker Newt Gingrich listens at an America First Policy Institute agenda summit in Washington, July 26, 2022.

By JILL COLVIN **Associated Press** A group helping to lay the groundwork for a future

America First Policy Institute, a group advising Trump, says its systems were breached

Donald Trump administration said its computer systems were breached, marking the second known instance that people supporting the former president have been The America First Policy Institute discovered the breach last week. It would not say what materials were compromised.

"As the leading policy group in the America First movement, it is not surprising that hostile foreign actors would attempt to infiltrate our IT,"

Marc Lotter, the organization's chief communications officer, said in a statement. "The tactics, techniques, and procedures of the threat actor are similar to that of is widely expected to be a the target of a cyberattack. nation-state sponsored accontender for a top job if tivities we have seen, allow- Trump wins again. ing us to remediate and respond quickly." AFPI is one of several groups formed after Trump left office to help lay the groundwork for the next Republican administration. It has been publishing policy guides and penning executive orders and draft legisla-

tion for Trump to potentially implement if he wins.

It is led by Brooke Rollins, who previously led Trump's Domestic Policy Council and

The reported breach comes after authorities said Iranian hackers targeted Trump's campaign and email accounts of some supporters and stole some material. Three Iranian operatives have been charged with the cyber attack. \Box



Macao's former top judge is elected as the Chinese casino hub's first leader born in mainland China

By KANIS LEUNG **Associated Press**

MACAO (AP) — Macao's former top judge, Sam Hou Fai, was chosen as the Chinese casino hub's next leader in a largely ceremonial election on Sunday, setting him up to become the city's first chief executive born in mainland China.

Almost the entire election committee stacked with Beijing loyalists — 394 of 398 — voted for Sam, the sole candidate, in a departure from the longstanding custom of having chief executives who were born in the former Portuguese colony, typically from influential business families. The remaining four were blank

The shift in the city's leadership to someone from the legal profession is likely to create expectations of a declining influence from business circles, which critics have often accused of colluding with officials, analysts say. They anticipate Beijing's policy agenda for the city will take priority.

Sam, 62, is widely seen to have Beijing's blessings. During the nomination period, he had already secured endorsements from 386 election committee members who voted in batches in a conference hall on Sunday.

Influential figures among the 400-strong committee were Shun Tak Holdings'



The sole candidate for the Macao chief executive post, Sam Hou Fai, the city's former top judge, speaks after declaring his victory in the chief executive election in Macao, Sunday, Oct. 13, 2024. **Associated Press**

aroup executive chairperson Pansy Ho, daughter of late casino tycoon Stanley Ho, lawmaker Angela Leong, one of Ho's widows, and former chief executives Edmund Ho and Fernando Chui.After being announced as the chief executive-elect, Sam walked onto the stage to applause from the committee mem-

"It is the highest honor of my life," Sam said.

He pledged to uphold national sovereignty, accelerate economic diversification of the city and better integrate it into the national development plans.

Sam is expected to assume office in December, when the city marks the 25th anniversary of its handover to China's rule.

After the election, China's Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office, Macao's incumbent city leader Ho lat Seng and Hong Kong's Chief Executive John Lee congratulated Sam in separate statements.

Most of the territory's 687,000 residents lack voting rights, leading to mixed sentiments about the election. Some hope Sam will heed public opinion and avoid prioritizing business interests, while others feel disconnected from an election process they can't participate in.

Still, political observers said many residents are comfortable with Sam's non-local origin in a city that has been home to migrants for decades.

With Sam's victory guaranteed, the real challenges await in the governance hurdles that lie ahead.

Macao is the only place in China where casino gambling is legal. Beijing has called for the city to diversify its gambling-reliant economy.

Sam has promised to accelerate the current government's plan to boost tourism and other sectors such as traditional Chinese medicine, finance, exhibitions and commerce. However, the city will still need to rely on the gambling industry for government revenues to support the city's welfare and accomplish other goals laid out by Beijing, analysts say.

China wants Macao to develop into a world-class tourism and leisure center and play a bigger role as a bridge for trade between China and Portuguesespeaking countries.

Small local businesses have been hurt by residents who spend money in the neighboring mainland city of Zhuhai, which offers a wider selection of items with good value for money. Chinese tourists are also now spending less than before.

It remains to be seen whether Sam, with a lack of government leadership experience, can form a capable cabinet to tackle these pressing issues.

Sam told reporters on Sunday that Macao's development cannot be separated from the support that comes from China, saying the city would have to "actively" participate in the development of the Greater Bay Area — Beijing's plan to integrate the casino hub and Hong Kong with other mainland Chinese cities in neighboring Guangdong province.

Ukraine's human rights envoy urges response to alleged killings of Ukrainian POWs in Kursk

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Ukraine's human rights ombudsman uraed international organizations Sunday to respond to a claim that several Ukrainian prisoners of war were executed in Russia's Kursk region, where Kyiv had launched an in- by the Russians." cursion in August.

DeepState, a Ukrainian battlefield analysis site close to Ukraine's Defense Ministry, said that Russian troops shot and killed nine Ukrainian "drone operators and contractors" on Oct. 10

Dmytro Lubinets said on Telegram that he sent letters to the United Nations and the International Committee of the Red Cross regarding the case, calling it "another crime committed

Later on Sunday, Ukrainian Prosecutor-General Andriy Kostin said that his office had opened a criminal investigation into the matter. Earlier this month, Ukraine's Prosecutor-General's Office of Ukraine said that

after they had surrendered. Russian troops had killed 16 captured Ukrainian soldiers in the partially occupied Donetsk region.

> There was no immediate response from Russian officials. Meanwhile, the Ukrainian air force said Sunday that its air defenses had shot down 31 of 68 drones launched at Ukraine by Russia overnight into Sunday in the regions of Kyiv, Poltava, Chernihiv, Sumy and Cherkasy. A further 36 drones were "lost" over various areas, it said, likely



In this image made from video released by the Russian Defense Ministry on Friday, Oct. 11, 2024, a Russian sniper, in an undisclosed location, fires towards Ukrainian forces.

Associated Press

having been electronically Chernihiv and Sumy came jammed.

The air force added that ballistic missiles struck Odesa and Poltava while

under attack by a guided air missile. Local authorities didn't report any casualties or damage.



Planned nuclear plant in a Kenyan top tourist hub and home to endangered species sparks protest

KILIFI, Kenya (AP) — Dozens rallied against a proposal to build Kenya's first nuclear power plant in one of the country's top coastal tourist hubs which also houses a forest on the tentative list of the UNESCO World Heritage site. Kilifi County is renowned for its pristine sandy beaches where hotels and beach bars line the 165-mile-long coast and visitors boat and snorkel around coral reefs or bird watch in Arabuko Sokoke forest, a significant natural habitat for the conservation of rare and endangered species, according to the U.N. organization.

The project, proposed last year, is set to be built in the town of Kilifi — about 522 kilometers (324 miles) southeast of the capital, Nairobi. Many residents have openly opposed the proposal, worried about what they say are the negative effects of the project on people and the environment, leading to a string of protesters which at times turned violent.

Muslim for Human Rights (MUHURI) led the march Friday in Kilifi to the county governor's office where they handed him a petition opposing the construction of the plant.

Some chanted anti-nuclear slogans while others carried placards with "Sitaki nuclear", Swahili for "I don't want nuclear."

construction of the



Demonstrators hold banners reading in Swahili "Sitaki nuclear" (I don't want nuclear), during an anti-nuclear protest in Kilifi, Kenya Friday, Oct. 11, 2024.

Associated Press

1,000MW nuclear plant is set to begin in 2027 and be operational by 2034, with a cost of 500 billion Kenyan shillings (\$3.8 billion).

Francis Auma, a MUHURI activist, told the Associated Press that the negative effects of the nuclear plant outweigh its benefits.

"We say that this project has a lot of negative effects; there will be malformed children born out of this place, fish will die, and our forest Arabuko Sokoke, known to harbor the birds from abroad, will be lost," Auma said during Friday's protests. Juma Sulubu, a resident who was beaten by the police during a previous demonstration, attended Friday's march and said: "Even if you kill us, just kill us, but we do not want a nuclear power plant in our Uyombo community."

Timothy Nyawa, a fisherman, participated in the rally out of fear that a nuclear power plant would kill fish and in turn his source of income. "If they set up a nuclear plant here, the fish breeding sites will all be destroyed."

Phyllis Omido, the executive director at the Centre for Justice Governance and Environmental Action, who

also attended the march, said Kenya's eastern coastal towns depended on ecotourism as the main source of income and a nuclear plant would threaten their livelihoods.

"We host the only East African coastal forest, we host the Watamu marine park, we host the largest mangrove plantation in Kenya. We do not want nuclear (energy) to mess up our ecosystem," she said.

Her center filed a petition in Nov. 2023 in parliament calling for an inquiry and claiming that locals had limited information on the proposed plant and the criteria for selecting preferred sites. It also raised concerns over the risks to health, the environment and tourism in the event of a nuclear spill, saying the country was undertaking a "high-risk venture" without proper legal and disaster response measures in place. The petition also expressed unease over security and the handling of radioactive waste in a country prone to floods and drought.

The Senate suspended the inquiry until a lawsuit two layers filed in July seeking to stop the plant's construction, claiming public participation meetings were rushed and urging the Nuclear Power and Energy Agency (Nupea) not to start the project, was

Nupea said construction would not begin for years and environmental laws were under consideration, adding that adequate public participation was carried out. The nuclear agency also published an impact assessment report last year that recommended policies be put in place to ensure environmental protections, including detailed plans for the handling of radioactive waste, measures to mitigate environmental harm, such as setting up a nuclear unit in the national environment management authority, and emergency response teams.



North Korean soldiers work at the North's military guard post as a North Korean flag flutters in the wind, are seen from Paju, South Korea, near the border with North Korea, Thursday, Oct. 10, 2024. **Associated Press**

By HYUNG-JIN KIM **Associated Press** SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea said Sunday its front-line army units are ready to launch strikes on South Ko-

rea, ramping up pressure on its rival that it said flew drones and dropped leaflets over its capital Pyongyang.

South Korea has refused to confirm whether it sent

North Korea says front-line units ready to strike South Korea if more drones appear

drones but warned it would ready to open fire." sternly punish North Korea if the safety of its citizens is threatened. North Korea on Friday accused South Korea of launching drones to drop propaganda leaflets over Pyongyang three times this month and threatened to pened again.

In a statement carried by state media Sunday, the North's Defense Ministry said that the military had issued a preliminary operation order to artillery and other army units near the border with South Korea to "get fully

An unidentified ministry spokesperson said the North Korea's military ordered relevant units to fully prepare for situations like launching immediate strikes on unspecified enemy targets when South Korea infiltrates drones respond with force if it hap- across the border again, possibly triggering fighting on the Korean Peninsula, accordina to the statement.

> The spokesperson said that "arave touch-and-go military tensions are prevailing on the Korean Peninsula" because of the South Korean drone launches. In a separate

statement later Sunday, the spokesperson said that the entire South Korean territory "might turn into piles of ashes" following the North's powerful attack.

Also Sunday, the powerful sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un described as "suicidal" the South Korean Defense Ministry's reported warning that North Korea would face the end of its regime if it harms South Korean nationals. She warned Saturday that the discovery of a new South Korean drone will "certainly lead to a horrible disaster."





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Craving a late-night snack? We got you covered!

(Oranjestad)—After a night out it's custom to grab yourself a late-night snack on the road. Here in Aruba, there are dozens of food trucks that you can visit to enjoy a late-night bite. Here are a few that can be found in the down town/hotel area.

Chalo burger





Chalo burger is a favorite among locals, and it's due to its popularity that it has branched out to different parts on the island. One of its main locations is in Palm Beach, near the hotel area. Chalo offers a variety of fast-food meals, like hamburgers, hotdogs, loaded fries and more! A popular dish among locals is the Salchipapa: loaded fries with sausages, cheese and a mix of sweet and savory sauce. Perfect for those late-night cravings!

Chalo is open Wednesdays through Mondays from 7pm to 12 am (Fridays till 1am), and is located at Palm Beach 178 (a little past the roundabout near the Piazza Gianni's). Other Locations include Tanki Leendert and Savaneta.

Julio's Corner

Situated in a nice little corner off the highway, Julio's Cor-

ner has a huge menu comprised of different dishes and snacks, all made with a Venezuelan twist! From arepa's to chicken wings, to pizzas and burgers, Julio's Corner has it all to satisfy your taste! Editor's choice for what to get at Julio's Corner is the quesadilla, which comes with a side of fries.

Julio's Corner is open Mondays through Saturday from 6pm to 2am (Fridays and Saturdays up to 4am), and is located in the parking lot of the Eagle Bowling Palace, right on the other side of the road from the Sasaki gas station.

Habibi Express

Habibi Express is a Lebanese food truck stand, one of very few food trucks on the island to sell Mediterranean food. Located



right at the entrance of The Local Market near the cruise ship port, here you can fill your stomach (and heart) with a variety of options like shawarmas, doners, kapsalons and more, all 100% halal. When asked, the chef there recommends all foodies to try their lamb shawarma, as it's a favorite among guests.

Habibi Express is open every day from 5pm to 12am. While you're there, how about a picture with the genie?□







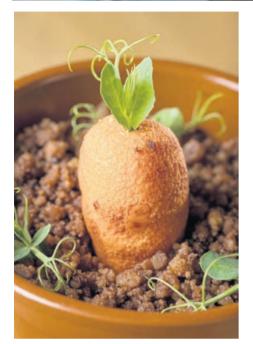


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At Infini, we take pride in offering a unique dining experience that goes beyond just a meal. Our eight-course chef's table menu is a journey through the rich and diverse flavours of Aruba, inspired by our island's culinary heritage and enhanced by locally-sourced ingredients. The highlight of our menu is the final course, Bolo Pretu and Wortel, a modern interpretation of a traditional Aruban dessert paired with carrots, walnut, cream cheese, and the famous black cake. This dish not only reflects our dedication to supporting local producers but also honours a longstanding tradition that holds deep significance in Aruban culture.

Discover Infini: Celebrating Aruban Culinary Heritage Through Our Eight-Course Chef's Table Experience

The story behind Bolo Pretu: Aruba's traditional black cake

The dish, Bolo Pretu, or black cake, is much more than a simple dessert. Deeply rooted in Aruban and Caribbean history, it is a symbol of celebration, served during weddings, anniversaries, and other special events. Its significance lies not only in its rich flavours but also in its connection to the island's cultural heritage, influenced by African, European, and indigenous traditions. At Infini, this historical importance inspired the creation of our final course, bringing the past into the present through food.

The cultural significance of Bolo Pretu

Traditionally, Bolo Pretu has been a highlight at many of Aruba's significant ceremonies, from religious celebrations to family gatherings. It is often presented at weddings and anniversaries, symbolising prosperity, unity, and festivity. Its dark, rich texture and robust flavour come from a unique blend of ingredients, including fruits soaked in alcohol, which was originally a method of preserving the cake for extended periods—sometimes even years.

In colonial times, the cake was

seen as a sign of wealth, reserved for those who could afford its laborious preparation and costly ingredients. Over the centuries, however, it has evolved into a beloved part of everyday Aruban culinary traditions. The recipe is often passed down through families, each generation adding its personal touch while keeping the core elements that make Bolo Pretu distinctive.

The ingredients that make Bolo Pretu unique

At the heart of Bolo Pretu is its complex combination of dried fruits, which are typically soaked for months in rum or cherry cordial. These include cherries, dates, figs, raisins, and prunes, along with an assortment of nuts, such as walnuts, to give the cake its signature dense and moist texture. The preparation process is intensive, requiring careful attention to detail and time to develop the cake's rich, intense flavours.

Once baked, the cake is soaked again in alcohol, further enhancing its depth and complexity. The result is a dessert that is meant to be enjoyed in small portions due to its powerful taste and the high alcohol content. Each bite offers

a journey through layers of flavour, from the sweetness of the dried fruit to the warmth of the rum.

A celebration of Aruba's culinary heritage at Infini

At Infini, our eight-course chef's table menu offers a true reflection of Aruba's diverse culinary heritage. The final course, Bolo Pretu and Wortel, is a tribute to the island's rich history, showcasing how food can transcend generations and bring people together. Through our dedication to using local ingredients and preserving traditional recipes, we create a dining experience that is as meaningful as it is delicious.

For those looking to explore Aruba's culinary past and present in a single meal, Infini provides the perfect opportunity. Each course is crafted with care, and the story behind Bolo Pretu ensures that our guests leave with more than just a taste of the island—they leave with a deeper understanding of its cultural roots.

To experience this unique blend of history and flavour, you can reserve a table at Infini by calling 297-699 39 82.

Birds of Aruba

ORANJESTAD — On May 11th, 2010, the Aruba Birdlife Conservation was founded with the aim of protecting the biodiversity in general and birds in and around Aruba in particular.

Among other things, the foundation will focus on increasing the survival chances of species of wild birds by promoting their preservation and conservation. The foundation publishes the most beautiful pictures of local birds on their social media that show us the beauty of Aruba's birds and nature in general. Aruba Today gives you a little peek with the following pictures and descriptions from the foundations Facebook page.



The Great Egret

Great Egret flying in peace. When it is peaceful and quite, beautiful things start happening in nature.

Canadian in the house

The breeding season is over and it's getting pretty cold in North America. Shore birds have started mov-



wetland beauty wants to keep its Serenity in Aruba's National Park, a toes warm. Our Canadian friends know exactly where they can do so best. A Greater Yellowleas rediscovering Aruba's Bubali Wetlands.

Cabochon

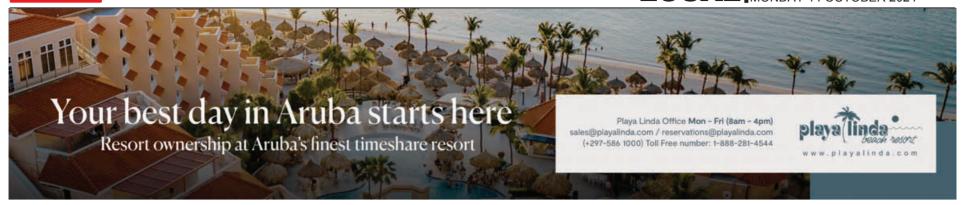
In its living form of so much more value than any gemstone. Aruba's smallest and most master of flight.



ing southwards as early as July. This A top pollinator. A hovering Blenchi inspecting the human who just entered his territory.

> English: Blue-tailed Emerald (male) Dutch: Blauwstaartsmaragdkolibrie (mannetje).

> Aruba's to enjoy. Aruba's to protect.



Did you know about...

Basic driving rules on Aruba (part 1)

(Oranjestad)—Have you ever felt confused when you're driving on the highways or backstreets of Aruba? Then we present a simple guide to some of the basic rules of Aruban traffic, along with some tips for things to look out for.

Speed limit

Legally, the speed limit on the four-lane highways is 80 km/h. This speed limit also counts for the main roads that are connected to the highways. The minimum speed is 50 km/h. Most people drive around 60 km/h on the main roads and about 70 km/h on the highways. There are also areas that indicate a speed limit on a sign; these are usually around populated and school areas.

The four-lane highways contain the left-lane, also known as the "fast" lane for each direction. Here is where vehicles can drive up to the maximum speed. However, legally it is not permitted to drive for long periods of time on the left lane. This lane is primarily designed for drivers to switch lanes before a roundabout, for example, if your exit on the roundabout is on your far left. The general lane to drive in—both at maximum and minimum speed—is on the right lane.

Roundabouts

Speaking of roundabouts, it is important to know where you have to enter and drive on the roundabout to make your exit. A good rule of thumb is to count the exits starting from your right side. So, exit 1 would be on your right; exit 2 would be straight ahead; exit 3 would be on your far left and exit 4 would lead to the road paralleled to the one you're on, heading in the other direction.

Most roundabouts have these 4 exits, so they are relatively simple. When you're driving on the four-lane highway, it is important to know when to switch to the left lane to make your exit: if your exit is on your far left (exit 3), then you need to switch to the left lane on the high way before nearing the roundabout so you can take the path that leads you directly to your exit. If your exit is on your right or if you're going straight ahead, you can keep driving in the right lane of the highway.

It's also important to know that vehicles about to enter the roundabout must yield to those already on it. A good rule of thumb is to look out if someone is coming from your left side.

However, other roundabouts can be quite tricky to navigate...

Watty Vos Boulevard (the "paperclip" roundabout)

Probably the biggest roundabout on the island, the "paperclip" roundabout on the Watty Vos Boulevard is one of the trickier roundabouts that could—and has—caused confused among both tourists and locals. However, once you take a good look at it, it's fairly simple. The basis is just the same as a regular roundabout (left exit? left lane! etc.), but instead of having four different exits like on a regular roundabout, now you have two extra; one on the right and the other on the left side of the roundabout. The rules don't change at all, you just have to keep an extra eye open.

Airport roundabout

Ah, yes. The infamous airport roundabout. The favorite roundabout amongst local, because of its easy (hard) lanes that never



(always) cause confusion among drivers. Sarcasm aside, this roundabout can be tricky to enter, especially when you're driving from the direction of the airport heading. When you're driving away from the airport reaching the roundabout, you'll be faced with three lanes. The far right lane is to take the exit 1 out heading east (right lane of highway). The middle exit is used for exit 1 (left lane of highway), 2 and 3. The far left exit is used to only exit on exit 3 (left lane of highway) and 4.

"Las Americas" roundabout

The Las Americas roundabout is located near the Talk of the Town hotel, west from the airport roundabout. This roundabout may look like a regular roundabout—and for the most part, it is. However, when you are driving from the east going in the direction of town, please take note that there are two exits on your right.

When you're driving towards this roundabout, you'll notice that the road becomes wider, splitting into two lanes. The right lane is used to take the first and second exit on the right. If you want to exit straight ahead, you must drive on the left lane!

It's always scary to drive in new places where the traffic may look and work differently, but once you get it right once, you'll get the hang of it in no time. Additionally, all roundabouts and roads on Aruba have signs and arrows painted on the road to help guide you. So take your time, keep your eyes open and don't forget to wear a seat belt!











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Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month at Caya House, Aruba

At Caya House, located in Palm Beach, we proudly join the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, observed from September 15 to October 15. This period is a special opportunity to honor the cultural, historical, and social contributions of Hispanic communities, with a particular focus on the central role that gastronomy plays in expressing cultural identity.

Regional Diversity and the Influence of Hispanic Heritage on Gastronomy

The richness of Latin cuisine is reflected in the diverse dishes that represent the unique characteristics of each region. Every country has its own culinary variations and styles. For example, mole from Mexico is known for its complexity and variety of ingredients, while Argentine chimichurri is famous as a flavorful sauce for grilled meats. These differences highlight how culinary traditions tell stories of their origins and celebrate the cultural diversity within the Hispanic world.

Historical Influence: A Fusion of Flavors

Latin American cuisine is a true fusion of historical influences. Over the centuries, indigenous, African, and European traditions have profoundly shaped the region's gastronomy, resulting in a unique blend of flavors and techniques. From the spices introduced by European colonizers to the traditional cooking methods of indigenous communities, Latin cuisine is a testament to cultural resilience and creativity.

Gastronomic Celebrations During Hispanic Heritage Month

Throughout Hispanic Heritage Month, food becomes a vehicle for storytelling and uniting communities. Dishes like arepas, pupusas, empanadas, and tamales symbolize this deep connection between cultures and generations. At Caya House, we honor these culinary traditions with a menu that highlights the best of Latin-Caribbean cuisine, offering traditional recipes with a modern twist, carefully crafted by our chefs to surprise and delight our guests.

Culinary Events and Cultural Festivals

During this month, numerous culinary festivals and events take place, inviting people to explore the rich culinary heritage of Spanish-speaking countries. At Caya House, we are proud to offer special menus dedicated to iconic regional dishes, providing an open invitation to enjoy a culinary



experience that celebrates the history, culture, and flavors of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Caya House: An Invitation to a Unique Gastronomic Experi-

Located at J.E. Irausquin Blvd 372, Noord, Palm Beach, Caya House invites you to join us in celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month. We offer a unique dining experience that combines the authentic flavors of Latin-Caribbean cuisine with a warm and vibrant atmosphere.

Hispanic heritage is a fusion of cultures, flavors, and techniques that have enriched global cuisine. At Caya House, we invite you to discover this history through our dishes and celebrate the richness and diversity of Latin gastronomy with us.

Elevate your dining experience at CAYA

In this house, we love to share what we cherish most and because we believe the way to the heart is through the stomach, we're offering a special menu of \$65.

Enjoy a "Puro Sabor" experience with one appetizer, one main course, and one dessert of your choice, with a glass of sparkling wine to make your time at CAYA truly unforgettable.

Come and celebrate with us the joy of sharing good flavors and great company!

Contact:

Caya House Tel: +297 699 39 82 Email: reservation@caya.aw

Blackstone Beach

(Oranjestad)—Named after its most recognizable feature, the Blackstone Beach almost represents the opposite of the typical it has black sand and is covered in black smooth

stones. Secondly, it lies on the northern side of the issandy beaches of in the southern region. So, if you Aruban beaches. For one, feel up for something different—or if it's opposite day, visit the Blackstone Beach.



Blackstone Beach shows the more natural side of land, away from the white Aruba: the stones that cover the beaches and the shape of it has been crafted for thousand years via volcanic eruptions, coral reef movements and wave activity of the rural northern part of the island.

> Located further east to the Natural Bridge and Andicuri Beach, the Blackstone Beach is relatively easy to access. Once you get passed the Ayo Rock Formation, take the Andicuri road leading up to Andicuri Beach. There, you can park



Beach.

This beach forms part of the Arikok National Park and is therefore a site that is preserved. This is why it is also relatively untouched by commercial influences. Despite being called a beach, do note that it

your car and take a 1km is not advised to swim in hike towards Blackstone the water, as the current is very strong and can easily stray you further in the wild ocean. However, you can still enjoy a spectacular view of the stones and the northern ocean that stretches out in front of the beach and take a picture with your friends or family!



Visit the island's popular cave sites!



(Oranjestad)—Among the endless sea of dark brown sand and cacti, there are two caves hidden in the outskirts of San Nicolas, in the north-eastern area of the island. These caves. The Quadiriki cave and The Fontein Cave are open to visitors of the Arikok National Park, so if you ever decide to take an "offroad" tour in the park, be sure to visit these prehistoric caves...and be sure to bring a flashlight!

Quadirikiri Cave

Known for its two chambers accompanied by a skylight, the Quadikiri Cave is the most popular cave among locals and tourists, as it is easy to walk through and provides great lighting for pictures.

As with all prehistoric or ancient sites, there is always a folk legend that adds to the lore and mystery of the site. The Quadirikiri cave is no different. The most well-known legend behind the cave could be considered as Aruba's first love story, as it tells the tale of the undying love between the chief's daughter and disapproved of his daughter's choice of lover, as he thought him unworthy. Stubborn and filled with anger, the daughter refused to turn away her beloved.

So, the chief decided to

Cave, in hopes that she would soon calm down and turn away her lover. Her beloved, in turn, was locked away in the Tunnel The Huliba Cave, formerly of Love (Now known as the Huliba Cave).

Through the pathways underneath the Tunnel of Love running up to the Quadiriki cave, the two love bird found each other, and refused to let each other go. Because of their stubbornness, they both died in the Quadiriki Cave, their ascending spirits burning two holes in the ceiling of the cave. This is why the cave has two holes through which sunlight passes through to illuminate the chamber.

Though there have been discoveries of Amerindian drawing on the wall, these have mostly been ruined by vandalism. However, the Fontein Cave further up north, provides a better glimpse in prehistoric Amerindian paintings.

Fontein Cave

Longer than the Quadirikiri Cave, the Fontein Cave contains pathways that her beloved. As legend stretch to the limestone would have it, the chief walls further down. Here Do note that these caves is also where prehistoric drawings can be seen. Though this cave does not have its own legend, this was speculated to have been occupied—or at least used by prehistoric Arawak settlers on the island flashlight! lock her up in the Quadirikiri for rituals and other spiritual

ceremonies.

The Huliba Cave/ Tunnel of Love

known as the Tunnel of Love, was once open to the public, and was the biggest and most accessible of all three caves. This cave had five chambers, including one that is heartshaped. This cave had narrow stairs that led to long pathways deep into the cave, with a staircase leading to the exit on the other side. In one of the chambers, there used to be the carving of the Virgin Mary, put there for the protection of the cave.

However, the Huliba Cave has been permanently closed for a few years now, as a way to preserve the bat population that lives in the cave. These Long Tongue Fruit Bats and Insect Eater Bats are very important to the ecosystem of the island. Though this cave is no longer accessible to the public, it surely is interesting to learn more about the history of these caves and the Awarak tribes that resided or utilized them.

are very dark, humid, hot, and are inhabited by bats. wear comfortable clothing and shoes, as the pathways in these caves may be rough and bumpy, and don't forget to bring a

Note to visitors:

Due to heavy rainfall in the past few days, Arikok National Park has informed that they have closed the Quadirikiri Cave until further notice for the safety of visitors.

Fontein remains open from 9am to 4pm.











ABATE CROSSWORD PIANO LALAW By THOMAS JOSEPH CRIME ELTON ARTSMATURE **ACROSS** 44 Mean POT AIR PER 1 Put in POLECATS office DOWN MELT RIGS 6 Sudden 1 Hosp. M|O|L|E|R|A|T|S attack sections R[I]M F[E]E Z[A]P11 Stylishly 2 Spike of ONETWOPELE film quaint WALLE MARIA 3 "At Last" 12 Supple OGLED ANGER 13 Party prep singer NEED WEEDY 4 Engine **14** Elizabeth Yesterday's answer gunk οf 5 Schooner 18 Without "Wanda-31 Grew in Vision" feature - in the volume 15 Commer-6 Short fly world 33 Parcel (out) ball cial 20 Half of a 34 Nightclub **7** Bouncy **17** — Mahal of song team's tune 19 Swiss schedule 35 Mensa 8 "--- a boy!" peak 21 Peace entry 9 English 20 Femur's numbers goddess article upper end 10 Buddhism 22 Fake 36 Bolt's 23 Maine gems partner branch national 24 Game 37 Buck's 16 Reprepark mate cube sent, in 25 TV 25 Block up 39 Skill sports explorer 17 Chewy 27 Nine-sided 40 Calendar 26 They candy shape box pass from parents to



AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

3-21 **CRYPTOQUOTE**

BNLRAHLRB AGR NWVJ DSJ AN TVNBFPR ERA H B K J STTRQAHWE AGSA JNF'VV MNGW WRZRP ERA HA. —

LSPO EPRRW

children

28 On the

house

29 Instigate

thing!"

33 Musical

shaker

35 Almanac

38 Lose it

41 Citation

42 Musical

43 Spirited

horse

drama

section

victorious

30 "Sure

31 Was

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: AND THAT'S THE THING ABOUT PEOPLE WHO MEAN EVERYTHING THEY SAY. THEY THINK EVERYONE ELSE DOES TOO. — KHALED HOSSEINI

To play sudoku, use logic to fill the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 only once. Puzzle difficulty increases from Monday to Sunday.

King Classic Sudoku

| 8 | | 3 | 2 | | | | | |
|---------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|-------|---|
| | | 7 | _ | | 8 | 4 | 5 | 3 |
| 9 | | | | | | 1 | 8 | |
| | 9 | | 1 | 5 | | | 2 | 6 |
| 2 | 4 | 5 | | 3 | 6 | | | |
| | 1 | 6 | | 9 | 2 | | 3 | 4 |
| | | | | | 7 | 8 | 9 | 5 |
| | | | | | 3 | 2 | | |
| | 7 | | 4 | 8 | | 3 | 6 | |
| Difficulty: ★ | | | | | | | 10/14 | |

Answer to previous puzzle

| 4 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 9 | |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----------------|
| 5 | 9 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 8 | |
| 1 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 7 | |
| 7 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 8 | 2 | nc. |
| 3 | 1 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 6 | Syndicate, Inc. |
| 8 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 9 | 5 | 3 | s Synd |
| 9 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 2 | 6 | 5 | Features |
| 6 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 1 | King |
| 2 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 9 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 4 | ©2024 King |
| Diffic | Difficulty: $\star\star\star\star\star$ 10/13 | | | | | | | 3 | |

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, B with two flat and one it is always better to be grounding prong, and on over-prepared than underprepared. That is why we have a list of basicbut important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

Electrical power





Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of out-

lets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type occasion, type F with two round prona and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.

Drinking water



The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.



Supermarket hours

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.

Safety



Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.





In an engineering feat, mechanical SpaceX arms catch Starship rocket booster back at the launch pad



This image provided by SpaceX shows SpaceX's mega Starship rocket upon its return during a test flight, Sunday, Oct. 13, 2024, over Boca Chica, Texas.

Associated Press

By MARCIA DUNN **AP Aerospace Writer**

SpaceX pulled off the boldest test flight yet of its enormous Starship rocket on Sunday, catching the returning booster back at the launch pad with mechanical arms. A jubilant Elon Musk called it "science fiction without the fiction part."

Towering almost 400 feet (121 meters), the empty Starship blasted off at sunrise from the southern tip of Texas near the Mexican border. It arced over the Gulf of Mexico like the four Starships before it that ended up being destroyed, either soon after liftoff or while ditching into the sea. The previous one in June had been the most successful until Sunday's demo, completing its flight without exploding.

This time, Musk, SpaceX's CEO and founder, upped the challenge for the rocket that he plans to use to send people back to the moon and on to Mars.

At the flight director's command, the first-stage booster flew back to the launch pad where it had blasted off seven minutes earlier. The launch tower's monstrous metal arms, dubbed chopsticks, caught the descending 232-foot (71-meter) stainless steel booster and gripped it tightly, dangling it well above the ground.

"The tower has caught the rocket!!" Musk announced via X. "Big step towards making life multiplanetary was made today."

Company employees screamed in joy, jumping and pumping their fists into the air. NASA joined in the It was up to the flight direccelebration, with Administrator Bill Nelson sending congratulations.

Continued testing of Starship will prepare the nation for landing astronauts at the moon's south pole, Nelson noted. NASA's new Artemis program is the follow-up to Apollo, which put 12 men on the moon more than a halfcentury ago.

"Folks, this is a day for the engineering history books," SpaceX engineering manager Kate Tice said from SpaceX headquarters in Hawthorne, California.

"Even in this day and age, what we just saw is magic," added company spokes-

Downtown

How to reach us!

TEDAY

BENDIA

man Dan Huot from near the launch and landing site. "I am shaking right now."

tor to decide, in real time with a manual control, whether to attempt the landing. SpaceX said both the booster and launch tower had to be in good, stable condition. Otherwise, it was going to end up in the gulf like the previous ones. Everything was judged to be ready for the catch.

The retro-looking spacecraft launched by the booster continued around world, soaring more than 130 miles (212 kilometers) high. An hour after liftoff, it made a controlled landing in the Indian Ocean, adding to the day's achievement. Cameras on a nearby buoy

showed flames shooting up from the water as the spacecraft impacted precisely at the targeted spot and sank, as planned.

"What a day," Huot said. "Let's get ready for the next one." The June flight came up short at the end after pieces came off. SpaceX upgraded the software and reworked the heat shield, improving the thermal tiles. SpaceX has been recovering the first-stage boosters of its smaller Falcon 9 rockets for nine years, after delivering satellites and crews to orbit from Florida or California. But they land on floating ocean platforms or on concrete slabs several miles from their launch pads — not on them.

Recycling Falcon boosters has sped up the launch rate and saved SpaceX millions. Musk intends to do the same for Starship, the biggest and most powerful rocket ever built with 33 methane-fuel engines on the booster alone.



Editor

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Editors

Pilar Flores Richard Brooks Angenette Figuereo

Sales

Mark Gomes Sulaika Croes

Classifieds

classified@cspnv.com

Distribution and Collection

accounting@bondia.com

Juan Luis Pinto

Weststraat 22 T: 582-7800 E: news@arubatoday.com W: www.arubatoday.com @arubatoday



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'Big Spender' is the theme music for MLB final four as high-payroll Mets, Yankees, Dodgers reach LCS

By RONALD BLUM **AP Baseball Writer** NEW YORK (AP) — "Big

Spender" is the theme music for baseball's final four.

The New York Mets, New York Yankees and Los Angeles Dodgers are in the League Championship Series with the sport's top three payrolls, joined by Cleveland at No. 23.

"You have to scratch and claw and match up and make moves, take shots and hope that it works," Guardians manager Stephen Vogt said. "Whereas for the other three teams, for the majorities, they set their lineup and go play."

The Mets-Dodgers National League Championship Series starting Sunday and the Yankees-Guardians American League matchup beainnina Monday feature some of baseball's biggest stars in Shohei Ohtani, Mookie Betts, Aaron Judge, Juan Soto, Francisco Lindor and Pete Alonso, Cleveland has the best closer in Emmanuel Clase and a top hitter in José Ramírez.

Playoff pairings bring to the forefront the question of whether spending equates to success.

"Obviously, spending more gives you a better chance you're bringing in more players," Mets reliever Adam Ottavino said. "But obviously it hasn't always played out that way."

The Mets have the top payroll of \$332 million, followed by the Yankees at \$311 million and the Dodgers at \$266 million, according to Major



Los Angeles Dodgers' Teoscar Hernández, left, celebrates his solo home run in the dugout with Shohei Ohtani during the seventh inning in Game 5 of a baseball NL Division Series against the San Diego Padres, Friday, Oct. 11, 2024, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

League Baseball's latest projections (final figures aren't calculated until winter, after all bonuses have been determined). The Guardians are at \$109 million.

"I'm not thinking about payroll," Dodgers manager Dave Roberts said. "I'm thinking about our 26 guys and beating the Mets. That's it."

Texas was sixth in payroll last year at \$241 million when it won the World Series against Arizona, which was 20th at \$129 million.

The only top spenders to win titles since the current luxury tax started have been the 2020 Dodgers, 2018 Red Sox and 2009 Yankees. Boston has won twice with a topthree payroll, as the secondbiggest spender in 2004 and

2007, and the third-highest in 2013.

Seven of the last 21 champions have had payrolls outside the top 10: the 2021 Braves (14th), 2017 Astros (18th), 2015 Royals (13th), 2011 Cardinals (11th), 2010 Giants (11th), 2005 White Sox (13th) and 2003 Marlins

"As far as the payroll goes, ultimately it comes down to playing good baseball," said San Diego manager Mike Shildt, whose team ranked 15th and lost to Los Angeles in a five-game Division Series. The Dodgers and Mets will be meeting in the postseason for the fourth time after the 1988 NLCS won by LA and the 2006 and '15 NLDS won by New York. The 1988 matchup was marked by the ejection of Dodgers pitcher Jay Howell in Game 3 for having pine tar on his glove and the 2015 NLDS was marred by the Dodgers' Chase Utley breaking a leg of shortstop Ruben Tejada while trying to break up a double play. MLB responded by banning rolling body blocks before the 2016 season.

After the Mets took two of three at Dodger Stadium this April, Los Angeles swept New York at Citi Field in late May, prompting a playersonly meeting that sparked New York's turnaround from a 22-33 start.

Jack Flaherty starts the opener for the Dodgers and Kodai Senga for the Mets, in just his third appearance of

an injury-filled season. Sean Manaea pitches Game 2 for New York, which earned three days off by beating Philadelphia in a four-game Division Series.

Dodgers All-Star first baseman Freddie Freeman. playing with a sprained right ankle, was 4 for 14 with no RBIs in the NLDS.

Cleveland and the Yankees will be playing in the postseason for the seventh time. Cleveland won the Division Series in 1997 and 2007, and it lost the 1998 ALCS, Division Series in 2017 and '22 and the wild-card round in 2020. The Yankees were four outs from advancing in 1997 before Sandy Alomar's tying homer off Mariano Rivera in Game 4. The Indians won the series in five games and knocked out New York, which had won the 1996 title and went on to win three more from 1998-2000.

Two years ago, Cleveland's Josh Naylor angered Yankees fans with his rock-thebaby celebration of a home run off Gerrit Cole in Game 4. New York won two of three at Cleveland in April and also at home in August. Having beaten Kansas City in a fourgame ALDS, the Yankees could go with Carlos Rodón in the opener and Cole in Game 2. Cleveland, which defeated Detroit in Game 5 on Saturday, could go with Alex Cobb in Game 1.

"Obviously a tremendous bullpen," Yankees manager Aaron Boone said. "Athletic. They defend really well. They're pretty balanced in their attack."



New York Liberty's Breanna Stewart (30) shoots during the first half in Game 2 of a WNBA basketball final playoff series against the Minnesota Lynx, Sunday, Oct. 13, 2024, in New York.

Breanna Stewart helps New York even WNBA Finals series as Liberty beat Lynx 80-66 in Game 2

By DOUG FEINBERG **AP Basketball Writer**

added 20 to help the New York Liberty beat the Minnesota Lynx 80-66 on Sunday in Game 2 of the WNBA Finals. The win evened the series 1-1 as it shifts to Minnesota for Game 3 on Wednesday

Just like Game 1, New York

built a double-digit lead in chance of another comethe first half, only to see it early in the fourth before getting within 68-66 on Courtney Williams' layup with 3:40 left in the game. Those were the last points Minnesota would

Laney-Hamilton answered with a 3-pointer in the corner to start a 12-0 run to ruin any

back by the Lynx. Stewart's **NEW YORK (AP)** — Breanna evaporate. This time they putback with 57 seconds left Stewart scored 21 points didn't completely collapse. gave New York a double-digand Betnijah Laney-Hamilton Minnesota was down nine it advantage. Stewart missed a free throw with 0.8 seconds left in regulation of Game 1 that would have lifted New York to victory in that contest. "I couldn't wait to come back here Sunday and change the narrative a little bit," Stewart said. "Thank you guys for having our back."



Jackson outduels Daniels and Henry runs for two TDs as Ravens beat Commanders 30-23

By STEPHEN WHYNO **AP Sports Writer**

BALTIMORE (AP) — Lamar Jackson threw nine passes to Zay Flowers in the first half and never went to him again. Mark Andrews rebounded from a ball bouncing off his hands for an interception to catch his first touchdown pass of the season. And Derrick Henry was Derrick Henry.

The result was a dominant offensive performance as Jackson outshined rookie Jayden Daniels in a showdown between two of the NFL's best quarterbacks with 323 yards passing and 40 more rushing, and the Baltimore Ravens beat the Washington Commanders 30-23 on Sunday for their fourth consecutive victory. "Just a pick your poison offense," Jackson said.

Henry ran for 132 yards and his NFL-leading eighth and ninth TDs, Flowers set a career high with 132 yards receiving and Jackson moved into second on the career rushing list among QBs. Baltimore (4-2) mixed and matched the pass and run to near perfection."Guys are going to get their touches and get the ball and good things will happen, and that's what happened today," said Andrews, who tied Todd Heap for the most TD catches since the team moved to Baltimore with the 41st of his career. "We're extremely versatile in what we're doing, and we're going to take this game, get better from it week by week and become the machine that we can be."

Daniels connected with Terry McLaurin on two TD passes, but did not get nearly enough help from the backfield in a matchup of the two top rushing offenses in the league. With Brian Robinson Jr. out because of a knee injury, Washington (4-2) got just 52 yards on the ground.

"B-Rob is a great player, but it's next man up," Daniels said. "We have to go out there and do our job." The Commanders' defense struggled to contain Jack-

son and Henry, allowing Baltimore to rack up 484 yards, and their winning streak ended at four with a loss at the hands of an opponent that is starting to much needed," Flowers look like the legitimate Super Bowl contender it was those drives to set the tone expected to be.

"We got so many guys that can make plays, a lot of guys are getting the chances, getting the ball and being able to showcase their talents," said Henry, who became the first player to rush for a TD in each of his first six games since LaDainian Tomlinson in 2005. "That's what you want as an offense."

The masterclass by the Ravens included scoring drives of 93 and 94 yards, the second of which be-

came the difference in the game when Henry scored from 7 yards out late in the third quarter.

"Those two drives were said. "I feel like we needed that this offense is going to keep going all game and we're just going to keep scoring, either running or passing."

Struggles defending against the pass continued, with Daniels going 24 of 35 for 269 yards, but again Baltimore was able to outscore its problems. Coach John Harbaugh called it the ultimate team win.

"All three phases contributed to the win when they had to," Harbaugh said. "Guys answered today in a



Baltimore Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson (8) hands off to running back Derrick Henry, right, during the first half of an NFL football game against the Washington Commanders Sunday, Oct. 13, 2024, in Baltimore.

Associated Press

lot of ways."

Asked afterward if he thought the game showed the Ravens have the best

offense in football, Jackson shrugged off that notion because there's still a lot of season to go.







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Eagle Beach – When you think of a restaurant that pleases the needs of a whole family or a large group of people with all different tastes? Think Water's Edge Restaurant. Located at the shore of Aruba's most wonderful beach, The Eagle Beach Aruba. Water's Edge Restaurant is guaranteed to serve you a fantastic magical night to remember. Whether you prefer to enjoy the view from indoors air conditioned comfort, outdoors in the soft tropical breeze or under a palapa with your toes in the sand. This spectacular restaurant offers the best ocean view sunset or sky full of stars dinner while the crispy Caribbean night wind caresses your face and plays with your hair.

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Culinary Voyage

Start your gastronomic journey with a scrumptious appetizer such as the Maryland Crab Cakes, maybe the Crispy



Calamari or the mouthwatering creamy Garlic Tarragon Shrimp. You can also opt for a classic French Onion Soup, a Lobster Bisque or the famously Water's Edge House Wedge, a crisp wedge of fresh romaine lettuce topped with homemade blue cheese dressing, diced tomatoes, chopped bacon, caramelized pecans and blue cheese crumbles, drizzled with balsamic reduction. This followed by the Chef's special of seafood such as Fresh salmon filet seasoned and grilled, topped with lemon cilantro butter and served with homemade mashed potatoes and fresh asparagus, a nice plate of Ahi Tuna or a succulent pasta dish like the Florentina Fettuccine Alfredo. Meat Lovers will have their fix with choices of a devourable 22oz. Bone-In "Tomahawk" Rib-Eye, pan seared in garlic infused oil and finished in the oven or our juicy N.Y Strip Loin, seasoned & grilled. All our steaks options are seasoned with a blend of kosher salt and freshly cracked black pepper. Served with homemade mashed potatoes, seasoned vegetables and a choice of red wine reduction, green peppercorn demi glace, mushroom sauce, or bacon blue cheese butter. For extra sides the options are delectable. Fresh asparagus, seasonal vegetables, mashed or baked potatoes, fries or rice and beans. Combine your personal choice with one of the most exclusive wine from the great selection of international wines to compliment your dish. Kids will enjoy every item of the specially compiled kids menu and there are also optional dishes for all vegans, vegetarians and gluten-free guests. To end the culinary voyage with some luscious sweetness, the desserts are wild. From a piece of coconut flan, NY cheese cake, carrot cake, chocolate brownie or our classic Tiramisu with kahlua and amaretto served with choco-



late sauce and coffee jelly. Not to mention the fresh and light piece of key lime pie.

Creating memories

If you are planning a birthday dinner, here you will receive a nice bottle of champagne to take home with you to extend your experience even further whether on the beach or your own private balcony.

Live entertainment

Just about every day of the week, there is a different live entertainment by the best local artists for you to enjoy. Whether you're in a romantic mood, or more in a swinging mood, there is absolutely a night especially for you where you can combine great music with delicious cocktails mixed with concoctions. In addition, Water's Edge offers three daily Happy Hours from 12pm-1pm, 4pm-6pm and again from 9pm-10pm with all premium brands specially priced.

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Whether you join us for breakfast, lunch or dinner, Water's Edge Restaurant & Bar offers a relaxed and inspirational dining experience overlooking the beautiful Eagle Beach with spectacular ocean views. Gather with friends and family for drinks and appetizers or a night of pampering and relaxation.

Thank you to all our guests

From the bottom of our hearts, we would like to Thank all of our guests who showed us so much love and support all throughout the year, and hopefully will continue to do so in the years to come. What we are most grateful for is that we could get back to doing what we love, which is looking after our guests. So, thank you for every dinner, lunch, breakfast, every to-go order, every glass of wine, every birthday, anniversary and date-night that you spent with us this last year. To our new guests, Welcome! We hope you to see you back soon!



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